

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES

June 12, 1998

Ms. Janis Kennedy Hampton Assistant City Attorney City of Bryan P.O. Box 1000 Bryan, Texas 77805

OR98-1450

Dear Ms. Hampton:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 116476.

The Bryan Police Department (the "city") received a request for case number 98-020747. You state that you have released Exhibit "B" to the requestor, which appears to be front page information. See generally Gov't Code § 552.108(c); Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976); Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976). You claim, however, that the remaining information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and have reviewed the documents at issue.

Section 552.108(a)(1) excepts from disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if . . . release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime." We understand from your arguments that the investigation of this case is pending, and that release of the requested information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime. Based upon these representations, we conclude that the department may withhold the information from disclosure under section 552.108(a)(1). See Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976) (court delineates law enforcement interests that are present in active cases).

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue

under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied on as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have any questions regarding this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Karen E. Hattaway

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

KEH/mjc

Ref.: ID# 116476

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Ms. Sandra Selvia

611 S. Ennis, # 28 Bryan, Texas 77803 (w/o enclosures)